



**U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)
CENTRAL ASIA TASK FORCE**

CENTRAL ASIA REGION – Complex Emergency

Situation Report #9, Fiscal Year (FY) 2002

November 30, 2001

Note: this Situation Report updates previous Central Asia Task Force Situation Reports and Fact Sheets. New information is italicized.

BACKGROUND

Prior to September 2001, two decades of war in Afghanistan, including a decade-long Soviet occupation and ensuing civil strife, left Afghanistan impoverished and mired in an extended humanitarian crisis. Government infrastructure, including the ability to deliver the most basic health, education, and other social services, collapsed. Significant local and national resources were directed to the war effort. Severe restrictions by the Taliban, which controlled as much as 90% of the country, including a restriction on women working outside the home, added to the impact of poverty, particularly on the many households lacking able-bodied adult men.

Humanitarian prospects worsened sharply in Afghanistan in September 2001 due to developments both inside and outside the country. Fears of a U.S. reprisal to the attacks of September 11 triggered a population exodus from major Afghan cities, both towards other points in Afghanistan and towards the country's borders. The beginning of U.S. air strikes on October 7 caused additional movement. International staff of all relief agencies withdrew after September 11, complicating the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Even prior to September 11, there were signs that relations between the international community and the Taliban were worsening significantly. These new developments added to an existing crisis of extensive displacement stemming from civil conflict and a debilitating three-year drought.

Afghanistan: Numbers Affected

Total population (CIA Factbook)	Old Caseload Refugees (UNHCR)
.....26,813,057	Iran.....1,500,000
Refugees Since September 11, 2001 (UNHCR)	Pakistan.....2,000,000
Pakistan.....135,000	Internally Displaced (U.N.)
Iran.....Unknown	Since September 11, 2001180,000
Refugees Since September 2000 (UNHCR)	Since 20001,100,000
Pakistan.....152,000	Old caseload1,000,000

Total FY 2001/2002 U.S. Government (USG) Assistance to Afghanistan\$344,738,658**
Total FY 2001/2002 USG Assistance to Tajikistan\$88,208,180

CURRENT SITUATION

Overview

Relief activities continue to adapt to the fluid security situation in Afghanistan. Humanitarian agencies are cautiously entering certain areas to provide emergency assistance, including Kabul, Faizabad, Jalalabad, Spin Buldak, and Hairaton. The food aid pipeline resumed the rate of delivery it had achieved before November 13, due to the use of alternative delivery routes and the arrival of several large shipments into the region. Constant population movements continue to affect the planning and implementation of relief efforts.

Political/Military

Forces aligned with the Taliban surrendered control of Kunduz to opposition groups on November 24, and on November 27 the city was reported to be under the control of opposition forces. Many of the areas

ceded by the Taliban are not under clear control and are subject to insecurity. Open conflict continues between the Taliban and opposition groups in southern areas of Afghanistan around Kandahar. U.N.-sponsored talks in Bonn, Germany began on November 27 to discuss political developments in Afghanistan with a diverse group of Afghan groups. Between November 27 and 29 a conference on options for reconstruction in Afghanistan was held in Islamabad, Pakistan.

Security

The security situation remains tense in most areas of Afghanistan. Continued fighting in Kandahar and an uncertain security situation in Kunduz prohibit relief activities from being implemented in the area. The U.N. has not yet conducted a security assessment of Herat, however the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) expects that UN international staff will be able to return to the city in

the near future. In Mazar-e-Sharif the U.N. has withdrawn international staff following an increase in fighting between groups in the city. The security situation in internally displaced person (IDP) camps around Mazar-e-Sharif remains a concern due to the alleged presence of armed elements.

The Taliban has ceded control of Spin Buldak, the Afghanistan town on the Pakistan border south of Kandahar, to opposition forces. Insecurity remains a problem and looting of relief warehouses has been reported. The road from Spin Buldak to Kandahar is impassable, as is the road from Spin Buldak to Herat. This has disrupted a primary food aid supply route from Quetta, Pakistan to the drought-affected regions in the north and northwest—cutting off approximately 240,000 IDPs around Kandahar from relief access. (See the section on “Food Aid” below for more information on relief pipelines). Humanitarian relief to IDPs around Spin Buldak is also hampered due to the insecurity.

A conducive security climate in Kabul has permitted an increase in relief presence there. At least six non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are operating in Kabul, as well as U.N. agencies and the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID). WFP has sent expatriate staff to Kabul to begin planning the first general distribution to residents.

Food Aid and Logistics

Large-scale food aid deliveries resumed on November 24, having been dramatically reduced following recent military developments on November 13. This increase has resulted from the opening of new transportation routes and the arrival of food shipments to the region. Approximately 88,680 metric tons (MT) of emergency food aid is in the region; 33,000 MT of the estimated 51,000 MT required for the central region over the next three months has been distributed, according to WFP.

WFP is currently using the following delivery routes: Quetta, Pakistan to Chaman, Pakistan; Peshawar, Pakistan to Jalalabad, Kabul and Hazarajat; Osh, Kyrgyzstan to Faizabad; Termez, Uzbekistan to Hairaton and Mazar-e Sharif; Kulyab, Kyrgyzstan to Faizabad; Turkmenabad, Turkmenistan to Herat, Chaghcharan, and Hazarajat; a route from Mashhad, Iran to Herat and Chaghcharan is expected to open soon.

Quetta. Continued fighting around Kandahar disrupted the food pipeline from Quetta, Pakistan through Kandahar to drought-affected areas in the north and northwest. Fighting in Kandahar and insecurity at Spin Buldak has made this unfeasible since November 13. While aid delivery continues to reach the refugee camps at Chaman, insecurity and a ban on cross-border humanitarian shipments by the

Government of Pakistan (GOP) on November 26 limits aid access to IDP camps at Spin Buldak and prevents shipments to the north.

With this southern corridor closed, WFP is airlifting food aid from the warehouses in Quetta to Turkmenabad and to Osh, Kyrgyzstan where they will be delivered by road to beneficiaries in the north. A total of 1,260 MT of aid has been airlifted to Turkmenabad, and 90 MT to Osh.

Turkmenabad. In addition to the food airlifted from Quetta, Turkmenabad is receiving shipments from Kazakhstan and Mashhad for onward distribution in Afghanistan. The United States Agency for International Development's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) purchased 15,000 MT of wheat to be delivered from Kazakhstan, the first 1,500 MT of which arrived in Turkmenabad on November 24. On November 27, 512 MT of wheat from the Government of Iran and 3,552 MT of wheat purchased by the USG departed Bandar Abbas for Turkmenabad. A total of 19,500 MT of wheat donated by USG is to be delivered to Turkmenabad through Bandar Abbas.

Peshawar – Kabul. The route from Peshawar, Pakistan to Kabul has opened, with the first convoy of 2,040 MT of relief supplies departing on November 26. The opening of this corridor will allow WFP to conduct a one-time general distribution to the 1.1 million residents of Kabul. WFP has sent a team of expatriates to Kabul to organize the distribution.

Faizabad. The northern route from Osh, Kyrgyzstan to Faizabad remains open, with 1,648 MT of aid delivered in the past two weeks. An air bridge from Kulyab, Kyrgyzstan to Faizabad was opened on November 23, with 176 MT delivered by air to date.

Termez. Movement of food from Termez, Uzbekistan to the port in Hairaton, Afghanistan by barge has been successful—with 1,260 MT delivered to date. Due to insecurity only 400 MT has been distributed to IDPs around Mazar-e-Sharif. Termez continues to receive food for onward shipment. Barge shipments were suspended on November 27 and 28 due to security concerns.

Regional Updates

Northern Region. UNOCHA reported that a large number of people have fled Mazar-e-Sharif as a result of continued insecurity. WFP reported that new pockets of several thousand IDPs have emerged in Badghis Province and are currently without shelter or access to humanitarian assistance.

On November 27, the International Organization of Migration (IOM) delivered a convoy of winter clothing and blankets to Andkhoy for distribution in

Faryab Province. IOM will airlift 7,100 tents to Turkmenistan next week for delivery in Faryab. USAID/OFDA has funded IOM for these and similar non-food relief deliveries.

Northeastern Region. Up to 50% of the IDPs in some areas of Badakshan and Takhar provinces are beginning to return to their places of origin, according to the U.N. Humanitarian Coordinator. Reports (UNHCR) indicate that IDPs from Khoja Bahaudin and Dashti-I-Qala are returning to their homes in Khoja Ghar district.

On November 28, UNICEF distributed 45,000 textbooks and 500,000 pieces of stationary equipment to 10 schools in Faizabad city. The school supplies will benefit approximately 7,500 primary school students.

Eastern Region. UNHCR reported that approximately 1,500 IDPs returned to Kabul between November 24 and 25. Simultaneously, an undetermined number of Afghans have left Kabul to return to their homes in the Shomali Plains, which they abandoned during the civil war. WFP is making preparations for a one-time distribution of food aid to the entire population of Kabul, intended to support the city until market mechanisms resume. UNHCR delivered its first convoy of relief commodities to Kabul on November 25, including tents, blankets, plastic sheeting and jerry cans for 10,000 beneficiaries.

WFP expatriate staff returned to their office in Jalalabad, where equipment was intact and staff were safe. An emergency food distribution to residents of Jalalabad took place on November 27.

Western Region. Humanitarian organizations report that the number of IDPs in the Herat camps continues to increase with several hundred people arriving daily from Ghor province. UNHCR reported on November 25 that drought-affected IDPs from Ghor province continue to move to camps near Herat at the rate of several hundred each day. UNHCR and the Iranian Red Crescent Society delivered non-food items to 9,000 beneficiaries at the Herat camps on November 24.

According to WHO, acute respiratory illness is the most prevalent health concern in Herat and surrounding IDP camps. WHO also cites a shortage of medicines in hospitals in Herat.

Southern Region. WFP estimates that there are 240,000 IDPs in Kandahar province that are not receiving aid due to conflict. The displacement camps at the border near Spin Buldak continue to receive new IDPs. UNHCR reported that there is a new refugee camp at Spin Buldak with an additional 6,900 persons. Assistance to these groups is

hindered by insecurity near the border, which has resulted in looting at aid warehouses. Nevertheless, Islamic Relief is beginning a distribution of 230 MT of wheat and complementary commodities to IDPs at Spin Buldak. This is the first distribution at Spin Buldak since October.

Current WFP Food Aid Stocks		
Location	Quantity (MT)	Beneficiaries
Afghanistan	19,557	2,346,831
Regional	65,306	7,836,667
Pak EMOP	3,816	457,940
Total	88,679	

(From WFP's Afghanistan Regional Emergency Daily Situation Report 11/28)

Refugees

Pakistan. UNHCR reports that 1,000 people are entering the Northwest Frontier Province of Pakistan each day.

UNHCR began transferring Afghan refugees from Quetta, Pakistan to the Mohamed Khel camp, located 85 km southwest of Quetta, on November 29. The majority of the refugees being transferred are not officially registered. The new arrivals at Mohamed Khel received food, tents, sleeping mats, kerosene lamps, stoves, fuel, blankets, and jerry cans. UNHCR reports that as many as 10,000 refugees currently living in Quetta may register to move. As of November 29, the total population of the Mohamed Khel camp is approximately 8,000.

On November 24, the Government of Pakistan (GOP) ceased registration of Afghan refugees between the ages of 20 and 40, to prevent combatants affiliated with the Taliban from occupying Killi Faizo. The GOP decided on November 26 to close the border to all refugees. The action leaves approximately 2,000 people without assistance outside the Killi Faizo staging area at Chaman. UNHCR is negotiating with the GOP to have the action reversed, according to an announcement on November 26.

UNHCR continues to coordinate the voluntary transfer of refugees from Jalozaï camp to Kotkai, located in Bajaur region, at a rate of approximately 500 refugees per day. In the past 10 days, more than 4,900 refugees have relocated. Refugees arriving at Kotkai receive tents, plastic sheeting, blankets, mattresses, stoves, kitchen sets, jerry cans, and soap. According to UNHCR, Kotkai has the capacity to accommodate 12,000 refugees. In addition, camps in the Kurram region have the capacity to address the needs of 38,000 refugees.

UNHCR Contingency Sites in Pakistan		
Location	Capacity	Pop.
<i>Roghani/Tor Tangi (Baluch.)</i>	<i>40,000</i>	<i>4,152</i>
<i>Killi Faizo (Baluch.)</i>	<i>1,600</i>	<i>3,119</i>
<i>Kotkai</i>	<i>12,000</i>	<i>4,600</i>
<i>Mohamed Khel</i>	<i>40,000</i>	<i>8,000</i>

Iran. *Refugee returns from Iran to western Afghanistan continue at a rate of approximately 1,000 a day, according to a UNHCR report on November 25.*

Iran / IRCS IDP Sites in Afghanistan		
Location	Capacity	Population
Makaki (Nimroz)	6,000	5,400
Mile 46		3,500
Total		8,900

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Background

On October 4, President George W. Bush announced a \$320 million assistance program for Afghanistan. Funding will support assistance to Afghans both inside and outside Afghanistan's borders, with support for food and a wide variety of other relief needs.

On October 4, Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs Christina B. Rocca redeclared a complex humanitarian disaster in Afghanistan for FY 2002. To date, FY 2001 and FY 2002 USG humanitarian assistance for Afghans is provided by the USAID/OFDA, USAID/FFP, Democracy & Governance (USAID/DG), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM), Department of State's Department of Defense Demining Program, the Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (State/INL), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The assistance includes both assistance inside

Afghanistan and assistance to Afghan refugees in neighboring countries.

In Tajikistan, on October 10, 2001, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires James A. Boughner declared a disaster due to drought, and requested funds for a seed and fertilizer distribution program. USAID/OFDA responded by providing \$998,180 through the U.S. Embassy to Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE) for the purchase and distribution of winter wheat seeds and fertilizer.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE

Personnel. USAID/OFDA currently has three Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DART) deployed to Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan to assess humanitarian activities and logistical capacity each area.

NEW U.S. GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES

Afghanistan. *A total of 80,000 MT of food aid donated by the USG is in the region and in route to intended beneficiaries. This includes 15,000 MT of wheat purchased by USAID/OFDA in Kazakhstan, valued at \$6 million, that is currently arriving at warehouses in Turkmenabad. USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) has provided 65,000 MT of wheat, which is being unloaded at Bandar Abbas port in Iran for various WFP warehouses in the region.*

To date, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has airdropped 2,005,620 Humanitarian Daily Rations (HDRs) into Afghanistan. According to DOD, the cost of the airdrop operations, including the rations, transport, and fuel expenses, total approximately \$44 million. The previously reported total of more than \$120 million reflects the estimated total cost of the entire four to five month airdrop operation.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CENTRAL ASIA

USG AGENCY	IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	REGION	AMOUNT
FY 2002				
<i>AFGHANISTAN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY</i>				
USAID/OFDA				
Airlift – Turkmenistan for IOM		20,000 blankets, 100 rolls plastic sheeting, 20 MT BP-5 High Energy biscuits, 1 MT sugar		\$751,102
Airlift – Islambad		35,400 blankets		\$312,350
Airlift – Pakistan		5 health kits		\$29,4115
Airlift -Turkmenibad		5 health kits		\$33,923
Airlift - Uzbekistan		350,000 wheat bags		\$65,490
ACTED		Food, non-food items	Northeast	\$5,500,000
ACTED		IDP camp management	Baghlan	\$630,000
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)		Non-Food Items for 200,000 people	Central Highlands	\$988,000
Concern Worldwide		Shelter—repair 5,000 homes	Northeast	\$1,203,343
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)		Seed multiplication, procurement, and distribution		\$1,095,000
FAO		Agriculture, seed multiplication		\$300,000
GOAL		Food, Shelter, Water, Sanitation, Winterization	Samangan and Jozjan Provinces	\$5,500,000
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)		Food, non-food items	All	\$2,500,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)		Food, non-food items	Badghis, Faryab, Balkh Provinces	\$562,313
International Rescue Committee (IRC)		Food, potable water, well rehabilitation	North	\$3,650,000
International Resource Group (IRG)		Food Augmentation Team		\$614,820
International Mercy Corps (MCI)		Food, water, non-food items	South, Central	\$2,000,000
MCI		Health	Heart	\$735,000
UNOCHA		Coordination	All	\$2,500,000
UNICEF		Water, sanitation	All	\$2,500,000
UNICEF		Nutrition, health, water, sanitation	All	\$1,650,000
Save the Children (SC)/US		Nutrition	North	\$206,488
SC/US		Food, health	Kabul, Mazar-e-Sharif, Faryab, Sar-e-Pul	\$2,000,000
World Food Program (WFP)		Food - 15,000 MT, processing, transport		\$6,000,000
WFP		Purchase of trucks for food delivery		\$5,000,000
WFP		Joint Logistics Center	All	\$2,500,000
Total FY 2002 USAID/OFDA				\$49,230,444
USAID/FFP				
WFP		72,700 MT Food commodities		\$38,555,000
Total FY 2002 USAID/FFP				\$38,555,000

USAID/OTI			
Voice of America	Radio program	All	\$1,687,820
Total FY 2002 USAID/OTI			\$1,687,820
STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Emergency Appeal		\$6,500,000
IFRC	Emergency Appeal		\$5,000,000
IOM	Emergency Appeal		\$2,000,000
United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	Project Management Information System		\$160,000
UNOCHA	Donor Alert for Afghans Program		\$2,000,000
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	Special Program for Afghanistan		\$600,000
WFP	Operations/Logistics Support		\$4,000,000
UNHCR	Emergency Appeal		\$10,000,000
UNICEF	Emergency Relief		\$2,000,000
Total FY 2002 State/PRM			\$32,260,000
DOD			
Airdrop of 2,005,620 Humanitarian Daily Rations (HDRs)			\$44,397,769
Total FY 2002 DOD **			\$44,397,769
Total FY 2002 USG Assistance to Afghanistan**			\$166,131,033
<i>TAJIKISTAN – DROUGHT</i>			
USAID/OFDA			
CARE	Purchase and distribution of winter wheat for 4,500 families		\$998,180
Total FY 2002 USAID/OFDA.....			\$998,180
USAID/FFP			
WFP	35,000 MT wheat flour		20,000,000
Total FY 2002 USAID/FFP			\$20,000,000
Total FY 2002 USG Assistance to Tajikistan			\$20,998,180

FY 2001/ FY 2002 SUMMARY	
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance to Afghanistan for FY 2001*	\$178,607,625
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance to Afghanistan for FY 2002.....	\$166,131,033
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance to Afghanistan for FY 2002/2001	\$344,738,658
Total USG Assistance to Tajikistan FY 2001	\$67,210,000
<i>Note: FY 2001 USG assistance to Tajikistan included assistance through USAID/OFDA, USAID/FFP, USDA, the Department of State, and Freedom Support Act funds administered through a variety of agencies.</i>	
Total USG Assistance to Tajikistan FY 2001/2002	\$88,208,180

*Note: Detailed breakdowns of FY 2001 and FY 2002 assistance are available in previous Central Asia Region Situation Reports.

**Note: DOD funding totals are estimates. The previously reported total of more than \$120 million reflects the estimated total cost of the entire four to five month airdrop operation.

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